

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 FRANKF 00734 271516Z  
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 MMO-01 /030 W  
-----271535Z 068536 /41

R 271449Z JAN 77  
FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6981  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FRANKFURT 0734

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: AMGT, APER, OGEN, ASEC  
SUBJECT: MONITORING OR RECORDING OF CONVERSATIONS

REF : STATE 15108

TWO QUESTIONS ARISE AT AMCONGEN FRANKFURT IN  
CONNECTION WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTL  
ON WHICH GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED.

1. AS PART OF ANTI-TERRORIST PROGRAM AND RELATED  
EFFORTS TO COMBAT THREATS AGAINST U.S. OFFICIALS,  
WE MAINTAIN CAPABILITY TO MONITOR AND TAPE RECORD  
INCOMING TELEPHONE CALLS AT CONGEN SWITCHBOARD  
BUT NOT RPT NOT DIRECTLY AT EXTENSIONS. UNDER  
CURRENT SYSTEM EACH CALL COMING INTO SWITCHBOARD  
IS RECORDED BUT ALSO AUTOMATICALLY ERASED BY NEXT  
INCOMING CALL UNLESS THE SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR  
OVERRIDES THE SYSTEM AND RETAINS THE TAPE RECORDING  
BY MANIPULATING A SWITCH FOR THIS PURPOSE.  
INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO RETAIN TAPE RECORDING ONLY IN  
CASE INCOMING CALL IS A THREAT OF VIOLENCE,  
KIDNAPPING OR OTHERWISE INVOLVES A VIOLENT SITUATION.

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IN ADDITION WE HAVE HAD OCCASION WHERE TELEPHONIC  
THREATS OF VIOLENCE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY  
CONGEN OFFICES AND HAVE BEEN MONITORED  
BY SECRETARIES IN EFFORT TO ACCURATELY RECORD  
MAXIMUM INFORMATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING  
SUBSEQUENT GERMAN POLICE INVESTIGATIONS. SINCE  
BOTH THE FOREGOING PRACTICES ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH

INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL, THE CONSUL GENERAL HAS DIRECTED THEY BE DISCONTINUED PENDING A CLARIFICATION OR ADVANCE APPROVAL PROVIDED FOR IN LAST SENTENCE OF REFTEL.

2. SECOND QUESTION INVOLVES POSSIBLE MONITORING AND/OR RECORDING OF CONVERSATIONS BY PERSONNEL OF OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WHO ARE INTEGRAL PART OF CONSULATE GENERAL AND UNDER CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER BUT WITH RESPECT TO MONITORING OR RECORDING MAY BE ACTING WITH EXPRESS APPROVAL BY THAT AGENCY'S WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS GRANTED EITHER ON AN INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS OR APPROVED AS A GENERAL PRACTICE. IN CASE OF AMCONGEN FRANKFURT SITUATION ARISES IN CONNECTION WITH DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (DEA) OFFICE WHICH IS PART OF THIS POST. (DEA AGENTS MANUAL FOR EXAMPLE SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZES MONITORING AND RECORDING OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WHERE ONLY ONE PARTY APPROVES SUCH MONITORING.) LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION IN REFTEL ON THE OTHER HAND PRECLUDES CONSUL GENERAL FROM PERMITTING ANY MONITORING OR RECORDING IN SUCH CASES EVEN THOUGH ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN EXPRESSLY APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LEHMANN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 15108  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3488381  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MONITORING OR RECORDING OF CONVERSATIONS  
**TAGS:** AMGT, APER, OGEN, ASEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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